

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 COME-00 TRSE-00 SP-02 CIAE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO PRIORITY

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 4996

UNCLAS MANAGUA 5426

FOR: LEGATT

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ASEC, NU

SUBJECT: WATERFRONT INDUSTRY, MIAMI, FLORIDA

REF: (A) MEXICO 19600; (B) MANAGUA 5399

1. ON NOVEMBER 28, 1977 FAUSTO AMADOR, GENRAL MANAGER, DOMINGO CHAMORRO, ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGER AND HERNAN ZEPEDA, OPERATIONS MANAGER, MAMENIC LINES, MANAGUA, NICARAGUA INTERVIEWED BY ASSISTANT LEGAT RICHARD S. CLARK, ALL MOST COOPERATIVE. CHARLES PEREZ ZELAYA DECEASED.

2. THE DECISION TO AWARD THE STEVEDOR CONTRACT TO PIERSIDE TERMINAL OPERATORS (PTO) WAS AN INTERNAL DECISION FOR CONVENINCNE OF MAMENIC FOR BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC REASONS. THERE WAS ABSOLUTELY NO OUTSIDE INFLUENCE OF ANY KIND. ELLER WAS RAISING PRICES AND SERVICE UNSATISFACTORY. SIMILARLY WHEN CONTRACT WITH PTO ENDED WAS NOT RENEWED BECAUSE THEY WERE RAISING PRICES AND SERVICE UNSATISFACTORY. FOR EXAMPLE MAMENIC PAID \$36,000 FOR CLAIM FOR LOST SHIPMENT OF INSECTICIDE WHICH LATER LOCATED IN PTO WAREHOUSE. HARRINGTON AND CO., NOW HAS CONTRACT.

3. THE ILA PEOPLE UNKNOWN TO OFFICIALS OF MAMENIC AND THERE HAS UNCLASSIFIED

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BEEN NO CONTACT WITH THEM AND NO ATTEMPT TO INFLUENCE.

4. U.S. NAVIGATION COMPANY REPRESENTS MAMENIC IN NEW YORK. HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH MIAMI SITUATION AND DID NOT INFLUENCE DECISION.

5. FAUSTO AMADOR MADE THE DECISION TO CHANGE CONTRACTORS WITH RECOMMENDATIONS FROM STAFF.

6. PTO WAS OFFERING SUBSTANTIAL PRICE AND SERVICE ADVANTAGES.

7. EXCEPT FOR EMERGENCIES ALL THEIR CONTAINER REPAIR IS DONE IN NICARAGUA. THEY KNOW OF NO CARTAGE OR CONTAINER REPAIR CONTRACTS IN MIAMI AND NO CONTRACTS WITH MARITIME CARTAGE OR UNITED CONTAINER.

8. CAPTAIN MURGA WAS SENT TO MIAMI TO ORGANIZE AGENCIAS MARITIMAS NICARAGUENSES BUT THERE WERE MANY ADMINISTRATIVE PROBLEMS WHICH HE COULDN'T SOLVE SO SENT TO NEW ORLEANS AND REPLACED BY ATTORNEY LOPEZ, A TRAINED ADMINISTRATOR.

9. ALL WILLING TO TRAVEL TO MIAMI TO TESTIFY IN THIS MATTER IF NECESSARY.

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